

and others on human-rights violations and the independence of Khalistan. Special orders of the U.S. Congress on human-rights violations and the independence of Khalistan have been conducted. The Indian government is trying to alter the Sikh history in Punjab since 1984. They will not succeed because it is preserved in the library of the U.S. Congress. It will lie there safely for a long time. Students of history will find the true story of what happened to the Sikh Nation since 1984.

Khalsa Ji, the time has come for Sikhs to unite and free Khalistan. Remember the words of Guru Gobind Singh, "I grant sovereignty to the humble Sikhs." Freedom is the birthright of all people and nations. It is also granted by our Gurus. The Indian government is so afraid that it is planting agents in Gurdwara committees and organizations that fight for Khalistan. It is creating Deras and planting agents in the Golden Temple to try to stoke violence. It is arresting Sikh activists for protesting a statue of the repressive, murderous Beant Singh, who was responsible for the murder of over 50,000 Sikhs and the secret cremation of their bodies by declaring them "unidentified", as well as the murders of Sardar Jaswant Singh Khaira, who exposed that brutal policy, and Jathedar Gurdev Singh Kaunke, or for making pro-Khalistani speeches and raising the flag of Khalistan. Beware of Sikh leaders who do the bidding of the Indian government.

Just the other day in the Southall Gurdwara in the United Kingdom, Sikh youth took control of the stage when the present management, which is under the control of the Indian Embassy, refused to do Ardas for Shaheed Bhai Kanwaljit Singh, who was killed by followers of the cult leader Ram Rahim when he went to confront them. We must replace these management committees with pro-Sikh, pro-Khalistani management.

Khalsa Ji, the time has come. Take responsibility and rise to the occasion. Work for the freedom of Khalistan so that the Sikh religion can flourish and the Sikh Nation can live with honor and dignity. Only then can the future of the Khalsa Panth be bright. Remember the words of the former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Sahib, Professor Darshan Singh, that "If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh." Let us show true Sikh spirit. We must rise up and free Khalistan now.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILLIAMSON-SODUS AIRPORT

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Williamson-Sodus Airport. The airport's history dates back to May 9, 1957, when members of the Williamson Flying Club, Inc. purchased a half-mile parcel of land in the Town of Sodus.

The Williamson-Sodus Airport was an 1,800-foot runway that was seeded in July 1957. Over the years the runway was upgraded and is now a 3,800 ft. hard-surface asphalt runway with modern lighting and taxiways and is always under improvement. Operated by the Williamson Flying Club, Inc., the Williamson-Sodus Airport has tremendously grown to serve the various needs of the community.

One of the airport's functions is to serve as a "reliever" airport for the Greater Rochester area. The airport is also utilized by local industries as well as the United States Coast Guard.

On behalf of the citizens of the 25th Congressional District of New York, I congratulate the Williamson-Sodus Airport for its 50 years of operation and achievements.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 385, to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1425, the Staff Sergeant Marvin "Rex" Young Post Office Building, I was unavoidably detained and unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATING DARIA VAN TYNE

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Daria Van Tyne of Vassar College. Ms. Van Tyne is a biology student and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Van Tyne and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

23RD ANNIVERSARY OF GOLDEN TEMPLE ATTACK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, the beginning of June marks the 23rd anniversary of India's military attack on the Golden Temple in Amritsar, which is the seat of the Sikh religion. It occurred from June 3 through June 6, 1984. Many other Sikh Gurdwaras were attacked at the same time in what was known as Operation Blue Star, which killed over 20,000 Sikhs. That was the beginning of a genocide in which over 250,000 Sikhs were killed.

During the attack, young Sikh boys, ranging in age from 8 to 13 years old, were taken outside and shot to death. Other soldiers bravely shot bullets into the Sikh holy scriptures. As

Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, who was killed in the attack, predicted, it laid the foundation for the liberation of the Sikh homeland, Khalistan.

This brutal attack was a desecration of the Sikh religion and culture and a bitter reminder that there is no place for Sikhs or other minorities in Hindu India. They are simply used for the greater glory of the Brahmins.

The Council of Khalistan, which will be leading a commemorative demonstration across from the White House on June 2, has published an excellent open letter on the massacre.

If we want to put an end to ongoing repression, Madam Speaker, we should support independence for all the nations of South Asia. We should go on record in support of a free and fair plebiscite, monitored, on the question of independence for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the nations of the subcontinent. We should stop trading with India and providing it aid until it respects the basic right to self-determination and all human rights for all its people, whether Brahmin or Dalit, whether Hindu, Sikh, Christian, Muslim, or whatever. We send India development aid, Madam Speaker, and it puts just 2 percent of its development budget to education and just 2 percent to health, but 25 percent to nuclear development! Remember that India began the nuclear escalation in South Asia.

23RD ANNIVERSARY OF GOLDEN TEMPLE ATTACK

DEAR KHALSA PANTH: Next month marks the 23rd anniversary of the Indian government's brutal attack and desecration of Darbar Sahib, the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar. Sikhs must never forget or forgive this atrocity. Remember that the Indian troops shot bullet holes into an original copy of the Guru Granth Sahib, written in the time of the Gurus. They took over 100 young Sikh boys, ages 8 to 13, out into the courtyard of the complex and asked them if they supported Khalistan. When they answered "Bole So Nihar", they were shot to death. Thirty seven (37) other Gurdwaras were simultaneously attacked. In all, more than 20,000 Sikhs were killed in that operation. This kind of brutality makes it clear that there is no place for Sikhs in India.

Since that horrible four-day operation, which took place from June 3 through 6, 1984, over a quarter of a million Sikhs have been murdered at the hands of the Indian government, according to figures compiled by the Punjab State magistracy and human-rights groups. More than 52,000 are being held as political prisoners, according to a report by the Movement Against State Repression. They are held without charge or trial, many since 1984. We demand the immediate release of all political prisoners and a full accounting for those who may have died in custody.

Instead, our highest institutions—the Golden Temple, the Punjab government, the Akali Dal, and others—remain under Indian control. Our homeland, Khalistan, remains under Indian occupation 20 years after declaring its independence from India. Half a million Indian troops continue to enforce the peace of the bayonet in Punjab, Khalistan.

Remember the words of Narinder Singh, a spokesman for the Golden Temple, to America's National Public Radio: "The Indian government, all the time they boast that they are democratic, that they are secular, that they have nothing to do with a democracy, nothing to do with a secularism. They just kill Sikhs just to please the majority."

Sant Bhindranwale told us that the attack would "lay the foundation of Khalistan." Indeed, it did. On October 7, 1987, Khalistan declared its independence. We must use this

anniversary to rededicate ourselves to reclaiming that freedom that is our birthright.

In 1986, Harcharan Singh Longowal struck the Rajiv-Longowal Accord, in which India promised to return the capital city of Chandigarh, which Sikhs built, and the Punjabi-speaking areas of Himachal Pradesh and Haryana, which were kept out of Punjab in 1965. Twenty-one years later, India has not kept that promise.

India has a long history of not keeping its promises. It promised the people of Kashmir a plebiscite on their status in 1948 and the vote has never been held. Nor has it kept its promises to the people of Nagaland. Instead, Nehru said that even if he had to put a soldier under every tree, he would never allow a free Nagaland. The Indian government has killed over 90,000 Kashmiri Muslims, over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, tens of thousands of Muslims and Christians elsewhere in the country, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits, Manipuris, Tamils, and other minorities. Tens of thousands more of them continue to be held as political prisoners, according to Amnesty International. Is that a democracy? These facts underline the necessity to free our homeland, Khalistan, now, and to support freedom for all the people of South Asia.

Remember the words of Guru Gobind Singh, "In grieb Sikhin ko deon Patshahi." ("I grant sovereignty to the humble Sikhs.") Freedom is the birthright of all people and nations. It is also granted by our Gurus.

When I visited Pakistan in November for Guru Nanak's birthday, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Shaukat Aziz, offered to build a road from Kartarpur (where Guru Nanak left this world) to the border if India will build their portion. They even offered to build a fence if India wants one. With this road, Sikhs could go, and visit this holy site with no visa. The Akalis could build this road themselves, but they have not done it so far. The spineless Akalis continue to be lapdogs of Delhi. How could the Akalis join with the BJP (the political arm of the RSS) to form a government when the BJP is determined to destroy the Sikh religion by any and all means at their disposal? We must end Indian control of our government, society, and institutions. That control is what the Golden Temple attack was designed to cement. We must stand up and say no. Remember Maharajah Ranjit Singh, who led a powerful, secular Sikh state that was independent from 1765 to 1849. Let us have a new birth of freedom, in our homeland, Khalistan.

The Indian government is scared of the Sikh Nation's aspiration for freedom. Recently, it set off an incident in which Baba Gurmit Ram Rahim Singh dressed up as Guru Gobind Singh and advertised in the newspaper, offering to give Amrit to anyone, a function reserved for the Panj Piaras after Guru Gobind Singh baptized them. In addition, it recently put up a statue of Beant Singh, former Chief Minister of Punjab, who presided over the killing of a majority of the 250,000-plus Sikhs who have been murdered. Simranjit Singh Mann and Wassan Singh Zaffarwal were arrested for peacefully protesting the statue. In 2005, 35 Sikhs were arrested for making speeches and raising the flag of Khalistan. All these repressive acts are in the spirit of the Golden Temple attack and continue the repression. They are evidence that we must free Khalistan now.

Let us remind the Indian government that we have not forgotten the atrocities committed against the Khalsa panth at the Golden Temple and from then on. It is time to reclaim our freedom. India must act like the democracy it claims to be and grant a free and fair plebiscite on the issue of Khalistan under international supervision. It must stop arresting Sikh activists for peaceful political

activity. And we must honor the spirits of Bhindranwale and all the others killed at the Golden Temple and the 37 other Gurdwaras by launching a Shantmai Morcha to liberate our homeland, Khalistan, once and for all. Until then, we will continue to suffer under India's brutal repression. Let's see to it that our Sikh brothers and sisters finally enjoy the glow of freedom. I ask Sikhs of all shades and political affiliations to join hands to free Khalistan. Remember the words of the former Jathedar of the akal Takht Sahib, Professor Darshan Singh, that "If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh."

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President,
Council of Khalistan.

HONORING THE ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE LAZERS MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Onondaga Community College Lazers Lacrosse team, 2007 National Junior College Athletics Association Men's Lacrosse Champions. Onondaga Community College, OCC, defeated Nassau Community College by a score of 21-14, giving the school their second consecutive men's lacrosse national title.

The Lazers have an excellent track record in college lacrosse. For the past 7 consecutive years, the Lazers have won the Mid-State Athletic conference title, for the last 3 years they have been Region III Champions, and for the last 2 years they have been undefeated and national champions. The OCC Lazers Men's Lacrosse program has produced 23 All Americans, and 27 Lacrosse Coaches Association Academic All Americans. With their display of outstanding athleticism in going undefeated and winning national championships two seasons in a row, OCC has certainly established itself as one of the best junior college lacrosse teams in history.

On behalf of the entire 25th Congressional District, I congratulate these young men on their outstanding athletic achievement and praise Head Coach Chuck Wilbur, and Assistant Coaches Mike Villano, Joe Villano, and Chris Brim on their team's success. I look forward to another exciting year when the Lazers take the field to defend their title in 2008.

No. 1, Brooks Robinson; No. 2, Jerome Thompson; No. 3, Dan Casciano; No. 4A/37H, Jeremy Thompson; No. 5, Holdon Vyse; No. 6, Lee Nanticoke; No. 7, Jack Redmond; No. 8, Kent Squires-Hill; No. 9, Nick Larocca; No. 10, Logan Kane; No. 11, Isaiah Kicknosway; No. 12, Thomas Anthis; No. 13, Andy Lamb; No. 14, Joe Taylor; No. 15, Lee Thomas; No. 16, Bill Walton; No. 17, Ross Bucktooth; No. 18, Sean Griffin; No. 19, Pat DiMatteo; No. 20, PJ Motondo; No. 21, Nick Kazimer; No. 22, Cody Jamieson; No. 23, Keith Tomazic; No. 24, Tyler Hill; No. 25, Cody Dummer; No. 26, Adam Rivers; No. 27, Kasey Fellows; No. 28, Josh Groth; No. 29, Steve Prosonic; No. 30, Kris Frier; No. 31, Wade Bucktooth; No. 32, Kyle Wenzel; No. 33, Padraic McKendry; No. 34, Pat Dwyer; No. 35, Brian Buckley; No. 36, Fred Bush; No. 38, Kyle Turbe; No. 39, James

Synowiez; No. 40, John Stanistreet; No. 41, Mike Fahey; No. 42, Spencer Mallia; No. 43, Greg Haney; No. 44, Sean McCauliffe; No. 45, Dustin Jacobsen; No. 48, Clinton Kennedy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 384, to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 689, the Industrial Bank Holding Company Act, I was unavoidably detained and unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATING KAMLEH SHABAN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Kamleh Shaban of Doane College. Ms. Shaban is a public health student and a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Shaban and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

INDIA MUST STOP PROMOTING SECTARIAN VIOLENCE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, India is again promoting sectarian violence in pursuit of its continued control of the Sikhs and other minorities. A fake baba named Baba Gurmit Ram Rahim Singh, who is sponsored by the Indian government, created a sect called Dera Sacha Sauda, one of many sects set up to divide the Sikh people. He took out a newspaper ad in which he dressed up as Guru Gobind Singh and offered to perform the rite of Amrit, which not anyone can perform, for anyone who contacted him. Performing this rite is reserved for specific religious leaders.

This ad caused massive protests, as it was an insult to the Sikh religion. Those demonstrations turned violent. A man named Kanwaljit Singh was murdered by the followers of the Dera when he went there to confront them about Ram Rahim's behavior.